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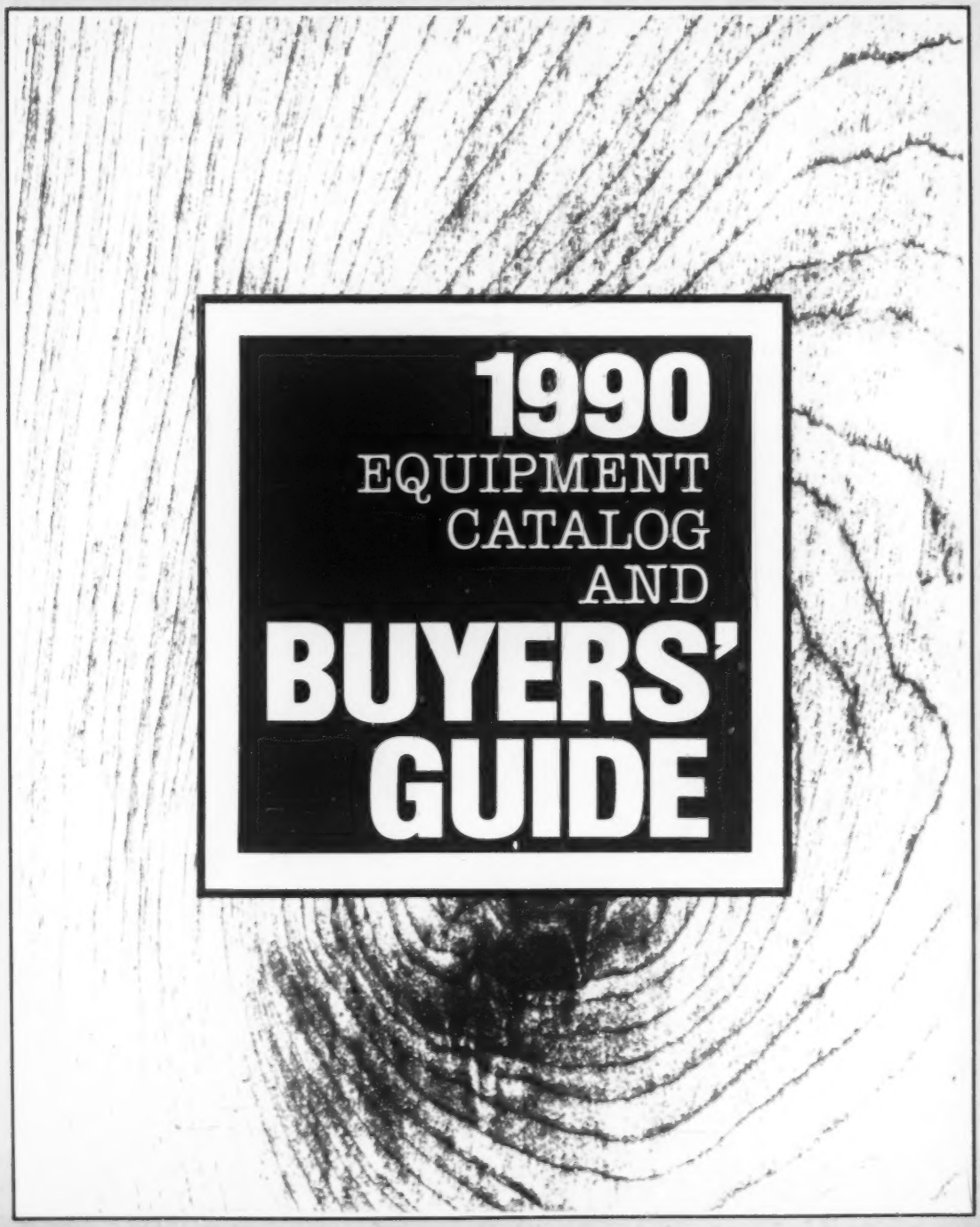
DECEMBER 1989

FOREST INDUSTRIES

LOGGING/PULPWOOD/FORESTRY/LUMBER/PANELS



1990 EQUIPMENT CATALOG AND BUYERS' GUIDE

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1989 Volume 116 Number 12

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THIRD QUARTER

Profits do well in U.S. while falling in Canada

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Forest industry companies had a good third quarter in the U.S., but their Canadian colleagues didn't fare so well. A digest of major U.S. producers' corporate profits showed a 17% increase, while major Canadian companies posted a 31% profit drop. In both cases, profits for this year's third quarter were compared to the same period in 1988.

Strong lumber prices were credited with much of the profit increase in the U.S.

Canadians blamed three factors for their decline in profits: overcapacity and lower prices for newsprint, the strong Canadian dollar and lower U.S. housing starts. Canada's dollar averaged 84.5 U.S. cents during the third quarter, compared to 82 cents a year earlier. ■

U.S., Canadian forest industry results, third quarter 1989 ($ millions)

Company	Sales	% change 1989/88	Earnings[1]	% change 1989/88
Abitibi-Price	C$16.4	0.4	C13.6	-69.4
Boise Cascade	1,100.0	10.0	62.8	-12.7
Canadian Pacific For. Prods.	C707.6	-7.7	C45.1	-51.3
Canfor Corp.	C254.4	-5.4	C26.8[2]	18.2
Champion International	1,318.5	2.6	102.1	-16.6
Chesapeake Corp.	205.7	9.2	12.5	-12.9
Domtar Inc.	C622.0	-1.0	C9.0	-63.7
Donohue Inc.	C152.8	-3.6	C9.7	-43.3
Fletcher Challenge	C369.5	2.4	C28.5	-26.6
Georgia-Pacific Corp.	2,646.0	9.8	178.0	58.1
Great Northern Nekoosa	980.5	4.6	65.7	-7.2
International Paper Co.	2,900.0	20.5	214.0	6.6
James River (7/30)	1,470.5	6.0	57.5	1.6
Jefferson Smurfit	331.1	7.2	31.1	-15.2
Longview Fibre (7/31)	177.9	4.5	18.1	-35.0
Louisiana-Pacific Corp.	510.1	10.2	51.5	39.9
MacMillan Bloedel	C818.0	-0.8	C65.4	-7.2
Mead Corp.	1,187.5	2.0	69.7[3]	-59.1
Noranda Forest Inc.	C1,199.0	-0.2	C45.0	-31.6
Pope & Talbot	162.1	19.8	13.2[4]	56.0
Potlatch Corp.	318.4	16.3	35.1	24.2
Scott Paper	1,249.3	8.6	75.9	-1.3
Scott Paper Ltd.	C124.9	53.9	C9.4	-26.2
Stone Container Corp.	1,373.3	34.3	70.4[5]	-20.9
Temple-Inland Inc.	479.9	5.9	55.6	4.9
Union Camp Corp.	667.3	-0.4	78.1	1.3
Westvaco Corp. (7/31)	473.1	7.3	55.5	7.1
Weyerhaeuser Co.	2,574.4	9.1	166.8[6]	15.2
Willamette Industries	486.6	10.3	52.9	35.7
WTD Industries	121.8	32.8	2.2[7]	63.6

1. Income after taxes from continuing operations, excluding most significant nonrecurring items in both years. 2. Canfor: 1988 quarter excludes gain of C$9.4 million. Mead: 1989 quarter includes a gain of $15.5 million from sale of Mead Release Products. 1988 quarter includes a gain of $100.9 million on sale of stake in Brunswick Pulp. Pope & Talbot: 1989 quarter includes a gain of $3.05 million from sale of sawmill. Stone: 1989 quarter includes a net gain of $4 million. Weyerhaeuser: 1989 quarter includes a $3.5-million pretax loss associated with initial phase of the company's refocusing plan offset by a $48.99-million gain on sale of common stock by a subsidiary. WTD: Quarter ending Oct. 31, 1989.

NEW USFS PLAN

FS to manage oldest forests as ecosystems

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Old-growth forests will be managed as "diverse and productive ecosystems," the U.S. Forest Service announced in October. The eventual result: less logging in these forests.

"For the first time as an agency, we are recognizing the importance of old growth on a national level," said Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson.

The agency's new national policy on old-growth forests includes definitions of old growth and guidance on land-use decisions, silvicultural practices and research. It also aims to reduce the fragmentation of old-growth stands by selectively locating timber sales until more is learned about these ecosystems.

The policy seeks to create new old-growth forests by extending rotations, while still providing timber products.

"We do not anticipate an immediate impact on our timber sale program since our forest plans provide for many old-growth values," Robertson added. "However, there will be an impact when we complete the final forest plans in California, Oregon and Washington, and when we amend or revise other forest plans due to a greater emphasis on old-growth values." ■

SF SHAKER

Wood performed well in strong earthquake

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—Wooden structures did just what was expected of them during the 7.1-force earthquake which shook the San Francisco Bay Area Oct. 17. They rolled with the ground and stayed up.

At least most of them did. The glaring exceptions were in areas such as San Francisco's now-notorious Marina district, where some buildings put up on landfill collapsed. In almost every case, building inspectors reported, the collapse occurred because the soil liquefied when the powerful shock waves rolled through.

It was San Francisco's strongest temblor since 1906. And just as they did then, the majority of the city's famous wooden Victorian buildings survived the shake. The fire which followed the 1906 quake destroyed much of the city.

This time, fire damage was comparatively small. Damage totals were predicted to reach $10 billion, however, making this the most expensive natural disaster in U.S. history.

According to Western Wood Products Assn. manager of wood engineering research and development Kevin Cheung, wood offers good strength and stiffness with lower weight. These characteristics minimize the effects of a quake.

"Wood-based designs allow floors and walls to work together under abnormal stresses such as quakes, making the building as a whole stronger than its parts," he explained.

"For the most part," Cheung noted, "wood buildings performed very well during this quake. We don't anticipate any tighter requirements on wood construction here because of the quake." ■

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